

### **ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE**

A stratified press fabric for the press section of a paper machine having a passive sensor system for detecting wear in the press fabric. The lower (non-surface) layer(s) of the stratified press fabric are produced using colored staple fiber batt material. As the surface of the fabric is worn away through use, the colored batt material is exposed to provide a visual indication of the wear. This visual indication allows the customer to readily determine the appropriate time to replace the press fabric.